IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

MURPHY   Atty. Ref.: 922-138

Serial No. Unknown   Group:

Filed: July 3, 2001   Examiner:

For: METHOD FOR DETERMINING MASTER OR SLAVE MODE IN STORAGE SERVER
       SUBNET

*   *   *   *   *   *   *   *   *   *   *

July 3, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for examination,

please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously

presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

4. (Amended) A storage area network according to claim 1 in which the first storage server is

configured to start up with its internal protocol server inoperative and upon receipt of a standard

event from the main network, the internal protocol server commences operation.

5. (Amended) A storage area network according to claim 1 in which the storage servers are

similar and interconnected via Ethernet connection.

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6. (Amended) A storage area network according to claim 1 in which a cluster of storage servers are directly connected to the main network and to said other storage servers and only one of said cluster inserts the identifier into the protocol package.

8. (Amended) A storage network according to claim 6 in which the cluster of storage servers establish which one is to insert the identifier.

11. (Amended) A method according to claim 9 in which the servers start up with their internal protocol servers turned off an when an event corresponding to network protocol without modification is detected, the server turns on its internal protocol servers.

12. (Amended) A method according to claim 9 in which the servers start up in one of block level mode or file level mode, when an event corresponding to network protocol without modification is detected, the server proceeds further in file level mode and when the event detected contains the modification the server proceeds further in block level mode.

13. (Amended) A method according to claim 9 in which a cluster of storage servers are directly connected to the main network and to said other storage servers and upon detection of an event corresponding to network protocol without modification each of said cluster of storage servers proceeds with further operation in file-level mode and one of the cluster inserts the identifier.

15. (Amended) A method according to claim 9 in which the event is the receipt of an IP address.
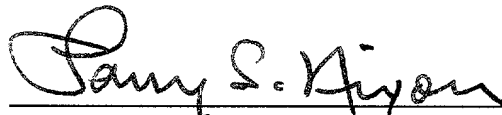
REMARKS

The above amendments are made to place the claims in a more traditional format.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "**Version With Markings To Show Changes Made**."

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____
Larry S. Nixon
Reg. No. 25,640

LSN:ms
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

4. (Amended) A storage area network according to [any preceding claim] claim 1 in which the first storage server is configured to start up with its internal protocol server inoperative and upon receipt of a standard event from the main network, the internal protocol server commences operation.

5. (Amended) A storage area network according to [any preceding claim] claim 1 in which the storage servers are similar and interconnected via Ethernet connection.

6. (Amended) A storage area network according to [any preceding claim] claim 1 in which a cluster of storage servers are directly connected to the main network and to said other storage servers and only one of said cluster inserts the identifier into the protocol package.

8. (Amended) A storage network according to claim 6 [or claim 7] in which the cluster of storage servers establish which one is to insert the identifier.

11. (Amended) A method according to claim 9 [or claim 10] in which the servers start up with their internal protocol servers turned off an when an event corresponding to network protocol without modification is detected, the server turns on its internal protocol servers.

12. (Amended) A method according to [any of claims 9 to 11] claim 9 in which the servers start up in one of block level mode or file level mode, when an event corresponding to network protocol

without modification is detected, the server proceeds further in file level mode and when the event detected contains the modification the server proceeds further in block level mode.

13. (Amended) A method according to [any of claims 9 to 12] claim 9 in which a cluster of storage servers are directly connected to the main network and to said other storage servers and

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upon detection of an event corresponding to network protocol without modification each of said

cluster of storage servers proceeds with further operation in file-level mode and one of the

cluster inserts the identifier.

15. (Amended) A method according to [any of claims 9 to 14] claim 9 in which the event is the

receipt of an IP address.